

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF MEDICAL PRACTICE
BOARD MEETING
FITGER'S INN
FIRESIDE ROOM
600 EAST SUPERIOR STREET
DULUTH, MN 55802**

SEPTEMBER 8, 2007

The Minnesota Board of Medical Practice met on its regularly scheduled meeting date, September 8, 2007, in Fitger's Inn, Duluth, Minnesota.

The following Board members were present for both Public and Executive Sessions, unless otherwise indicated: Jon Thomas, M.D, MBA, President, Carl Smith, M.D., Vice President, Linda Van Etta, M.D., Secretary, Steven Altchuler, Ph.D., M.D., Robert Brown, Ph.D., Rebecca Hafner, M.D., MBA, Bradley Johnson, M.D., Kelli Johnson, Ernest Lampe, II, M.D., Tammy McGee, James Mona, D.O., Allen Rasmussen, and Gregory Snyder, M.D.

PUBLIC SESSION

Roll call was recorded by Robert Leach, Executive Director.

The minutes of the July 14, 2007, Board meeting were received and approved as circulated.

Alice Swan, DNSc, RN, Associate Dean of Nursing and Margaret McLaughlin, Ph.D., Dean of Health presented information about the College of St. Catherine's recently announced School of Health. A question and answer session followed.

Dr. McLaughlin agreed to provide a copy of her PowerPoint presentation to Board staff for distribution to Board members.

The Board took a five minute break.

On recommendation of the Licensure Committee, physician applicants 1 – 317 of the agenda were approved for licensure subject to the receipt of verification documents.

On recommendation of the Licensure Committee, physician applicants 318 - 321 of the agenda were approved for Emeritus registration.

On recommendation of the Acupuncture Advisory Council, acupuncturist applicants 322 - 327 of the agenda were approved for licensure subject to the receipt of verification documents.

On recommendation of the Athletic Trainer Advisory Council, athletic trainer applicants 328 - 342 of the agenda were approved for registration subject to the receipt of verification documents.

On recommendation of the Physician Assistant Advisory Council, physician assistant applicants 343 - 379 of the agenda were approved for registration subject to the receipt of verification documents.

On recommendation of the Respiratory Care Practitioner Advisory Council, respiratory care practitioner applicants 380 - 410 of the agenda were approved for registration subject to the receipt of verification documents.

On recommendation of the Traditional Midwifery Advisory Council, midwife applicant 411 of the agenda was approved for licensure subject to receipt of verification documents.

The minutes of the August 20, 2007, meeting of the Licensure Committee were received and approved as circulated. Rebecca Hafner, MD, MBA, Licensure Committee Chair, informed the Board that the Committee reviewed and approved the revised language for the four illness questions for the renewal application. The changes to the renewal were not included in the Board agenda. Dr. Hafner verbally relayed the revised language to the Board. Dr. Hafner stated that Board staff will e-mail the revised renewal language change, along with the previous language, to all Board members for review. The revised renewal instruction language change will be announced in the Board's next newsletter. The new language will take affect in approximately two months.

At the July Board meeting, Kelli Johnson, Board Member, asked whether or not the Board had experienced an increase in international medical graduates. Mr. Leach stated that over the past ten years there has been an increase in international medical graduates. In 1997 international medical graduates totaled 15% of total applicants. In 2006 that number had increased to 20%.

In addition, at the July meeting, the Board questioned whether the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) was looking into the issue of physicians who were identified as members of terrorist cells that were responsible for a bombing and attempted bombings in Europe . Shortly after the July Board meeting, the FSMB Monthly Roundtable Conference Call addressed this issue. When international medical graduates wish to enter graduate training programs in the United States, they must apply for a J1 Visa. All individuals applying for J1 Visas are thoroughly investigated by the State Department and Department of Homeland Security. Tim Knettlar, Vice President, FSMB, stated that none of the individuals indentified as members of the European terrorist cell are licensed in the United States. In addition, none of them have applied to take any step of the United States Medical Licensing Examination. None have applied for J1 visas in the United States.

In response to Ms. Johnson's question at the July Board meeting, Mr. Leach stated that the number of complaints and disciplinary actions related to prescribing have increased in recent years.

The Board discussed statistics regarding complaints alleging inappropriate prescribing. After the discussion, it was agreed by the Board that an article, written by Board President, Dr. Thomas, regarding prescribing complaints and disciplinary actions will be published in the Board's next newsletter. The article will also direct individuals to the Board's website to access prescribing information.

The Board unanimously nominated Dr. Jon Thomas, Allen Rasmussen and Gregory Snyder, M.D., to the Board's Nominating Committee.

After discussion and corrections to the 2008 proposed meeting dates, the Board tentatively agreed upon the following Board meeting dates for 2008:

Regular Board Meetings

January 12
March 8
May 10
July 12
September 13
November 8

Contested Case Hearings

February 9
April 12
June 14
August 9
October 11
December 13

The tentative Board meeting dates will be e-mailed out to Board members.

The Board was informed of three Corrective Action Agreements entered since the last Board meeting.

End of Public Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The following Board members were present for both Public and Executive Sessions, unless otherwise indicated: Jon Thomas, M.D, MBA, President, Carl Smith, M.D., Vice President, Linda Van Etta, M.D., Secretary, Steven Altchuler, Ph.D., M.D., Robert Brown, Ph.D., Rebecca Hafner, M.D., MBA, Bradley Johnson, M.D., Kelli Johnson, Ernest Lampe, II, M.D., Tammy McGee, James Mona, D.O., Allen Rasmussen, and Gregory Snyder, M.D.

PETER A. AHLES, M.D.

On recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee, the license the Stipulation and Order for voluntary surrender signed by Dr. Ahles was approved.

KATHRYN K. BERG, M.D.

On recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee, the Stipulation and Order for indefinite suspension was signed by Dr. Berg.

LARRY F. BERGER, M.D.

On recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee, the Stipulation and Order for reprimand and restricted license signed by Dr. Berger was approved. Ms. McGee, Mr. Brown, and Drs. Lampe and Snyder voted no.

THOMAS P. FERRY, M.D.

On recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee, the license of Dr. Ferry was reinstated. Dr. Snyder recused.

RAYMOND L. HAWK, PA

On recommendation of the Licensure Committee, the Stipulation and Order for restricted registration signed by Mr. Hawk was approved.

STEVEN J. KIVI, M.D.

On recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee, the license of Dr. Kivi was reinstated.

LARRY D. KOBRIGER, M.D.

On recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee, the Stipulation and Order for restricted license signed by Dr. Kobriger was approved.

JAMES PHILIP LEWIS, M.D.

On recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee, the licensure of Dr. Lewis was reinstated. Drs. Smith and Thomas recused.

PATRICIA A. MILLS, M.D.

On recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee, the Amended Stipulation and Order for restricted license signed by Dr. Mills was approved.

GARY L. ROBINSON, M.D.

On recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee, the Stipulation and Order for restricted license signed by Dr. Robinson was approved.

STEVEN TROBIANI, M.D.

On recommendation of the Complaint Review Committee, the Stipulation and Order for reprimand signed by Dr. Trobiani was approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Linda Van Etta, M.D.

Secretary

MN Board of Medical Practice

October 31, 2007

Date